

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The recycling pickup for Wednesday, March 14, is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.



KUSAHC to brief on new benefits

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and Sierra Military Health Services will hold a briefing at the Post Theater on March 13, 20 and 27 at 9 a.m. on the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program and the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program. Retired beneficiaries do not want to miss this informative briefing on newly approved benefits.

Garrison libraries temporarily change hours of operation

The Aberdeen Garrison Library system will temporarily change its hours of operation effective Monday, March 12. The new hours will be:

Aberdeen branch:
Saturday and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

Monday through Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Thursday and Friday, closed.

Edgewood branch:
Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.
Wednesday and Thursday, 12:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, closed.

EA Thrift Shop

After being closed for three weeks due to floor damage, the EA Thrift Shop is again open for business in our regular location, building E-1633. Hours of operation are Tues. and Thurs. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the first Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The consignment room is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on all of the above days. For information call 410-676-4733.

Warrant officer career briefings

The Army's Recruiting Team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Ft. Knox, Ky., will brief on opportunities to become a Warrant Officer March 12, 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Theater.

More information can be found on the Internet at www.usarec.army.mil or by contacting Jessie Street, 410-306-2351, or Chief Warrant

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Visiting chaplain celebrates wisdom, prayer at luncheon

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Extolling the virtues of wisdom and prayer, Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) David Hicks told listeners at the Aberdeen Proving Ground National Prayer Luncheon they should search within themselves for characteristics like those of the Bible's King Solomon.

Hicks, the Army Deputy Chief of Chaplains, was the guest speaker for the National Prayer Luncheon held at Top of the Bay on Feb. 27.

Welcoming Hicks were Maj. Gen. John C. Doesburg, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, and members of the APG chaplaincy led by Chaplain (Lt. Col.(P)) Larry Robinson, SBCCOM and installation chaplain.

Doesburg thanked the APG Unit Ministry teams on and off post for putting the program together.

"Prayer is the foundation of a rightful government," Doesburg said. "It is important that we pause to honor our Creator as we pray for our leaders, communities, families and neighborhoods."

He welcomed Hicks as a former classmate and fellow para-trooper.

Noting that "there has always been a great connection between prayer and great leaders," Hicks talked about the characteristics of "dependency on God and unselfish leadership" that marked the reign of leaders since the time of Solomon.

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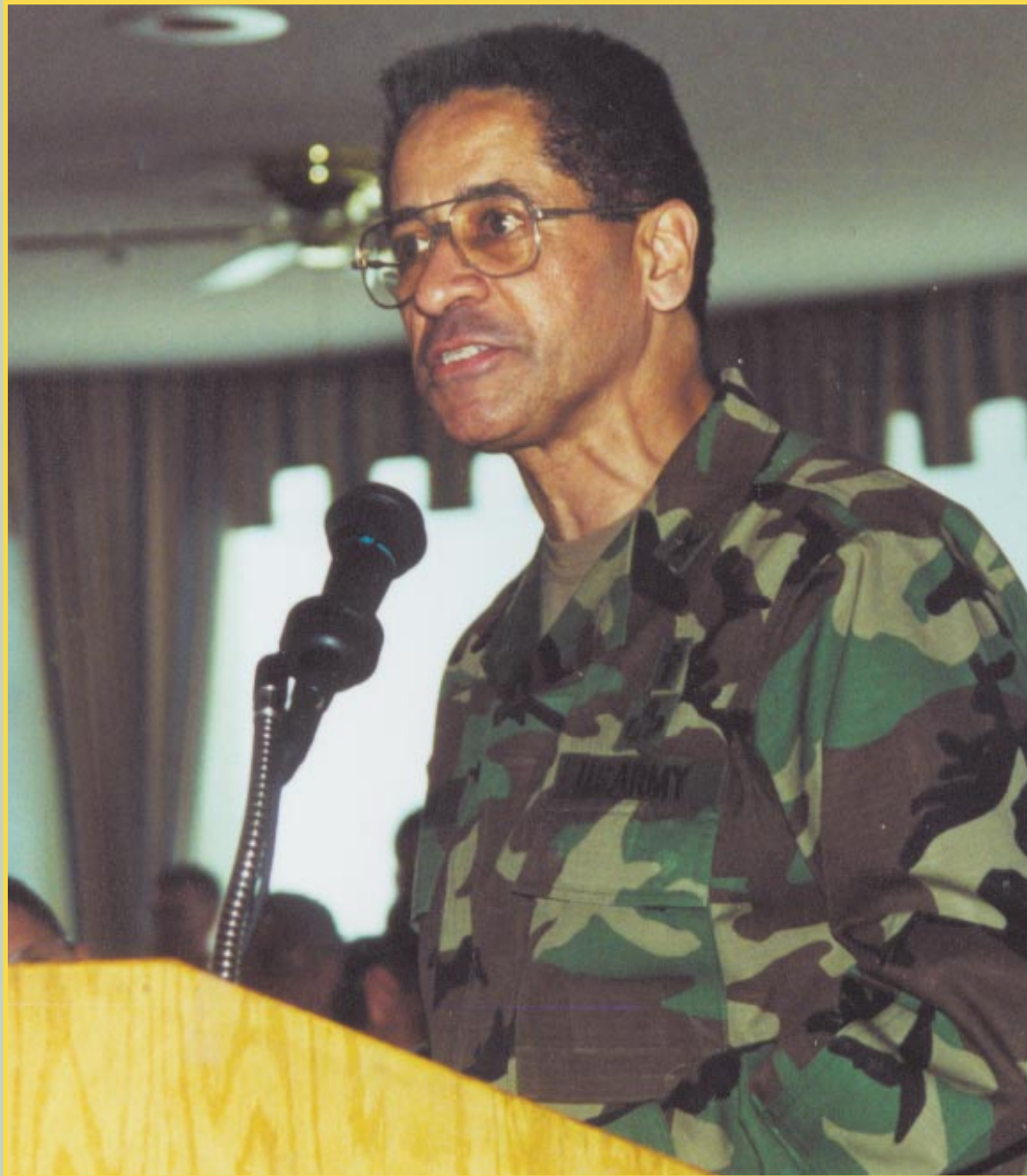


Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) David Hicks, the Army Deputy Chief of Chaplains, was the keynote speaker at the Aberdeen Proving Ground National Prayer Luncheon held Feb. 27 at Top of the Bay.

AER campaign underway

By Sheila Little
APG News

Army Emergency Relief, a private non-profit organization incorporated in 1942, began its yearly campaign March 1. Its mission is to help soldiers deal with emergency financial crises through no-interest loans and grants, and the campaign serves as an opportunity for soldiers to donate toward helping other soldiers.

All members of the Army family and others interested in supporting AER, are asked to contribute during Campaign 2001.

Aberdeen Proving Ground's 2001 Army Emergency Relief Campaign Coordinator, Maj. Clifton Johnston of Headquarters Support Troop, began with a kick-off meeting in the conference room of garrison headquarters last week.

Col. Robert J. Spidel, garrison commander and deputy installation commander, addressed unit representatives gathered together for information on how to conduct successful campaigns within their

respective organizations.

"We conduct two charitable campaigns each year on the post," Spidel said, referring to the Combined Federal Campaign, conducted each fall, and the spring-time Army Emergency Relief Campaign.

"I like to call contributing to AER 'taking care of our own.'"

Spidel said the AER Office at APG distributed over \$277,000 to soldiers and other Army family members within the local community last year. He said the most frequent requests for funds are for travel expenses for those who must return home for family accident or death emergencies, funds to cover initial rent and deposit required as a result of a military move, and for essential automotive repairs.

Those entitled to apply for the no-interest loans and grants include active duty and retired soldiers, their families, widows and orphans, and Army National Guard members and Reservists who have

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Photo by SHEILA LITTLE
Col. Robert J. Spidel, garrison commander and deputy installation commander, center, flanked by this year's Army Emergency Relief campaign coordinator Maj. Clifton Johnston of Headquarters Support Troop, left, and Marge Fissel, Aberdeen Proving Ground's AER officer, right, signs up as one of the first APG contributors to AER for 2001.

An army of 500 visits an 'Army of one'

By Lenny Gatto
Mid-Atlantic Recruiting Battalion

The 495 young men and women came in the uniforms of their generation.

Clad in shirts and jackets from the Gap, Nike and Old Navy, along with the blue and gold North Brunswick Varsity Winter Track and the green and gold Edison Fareira Volleyball team jackets, they joined others with T-shirts and sweat pants emblazoned with "Army" and "Army JROTC."

They came to see what life would be like when they put on the uniform of their choice -- Army green and camouflage battle dress uniforms.

They came as part of a special training program for members of the Army's Delayed Entry Program. Commonly known as DEPs, the young men and women had recently enlisted in the Army and were awaiting orders to "ship-out" to basic training.

The day's events, which were supported by the 61st Ordnance Brigade's 16th and 143rd Ordnance Battalions, provided the DEPs, as well as their friends and parents, a tour of the training facilities of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The future soldiers came from the Mid-Atlantic and Baltimore Recruiting Battalion areas of Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia, Delaware and the greater Philadelphia area.

Each was permitted to bring one referral — a friend or relative who may also be interested in an Army enlistment. A total of 56 referrals, including two fathers, accompanied the future soldiers to view training and equipment demonstrations.

According to Maj. Jim

Traffic pattern change slated for this month

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Picture this...you are sitting at the traffic light, north-bound, in the through lane of Maryland Boulevard, heading towards Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, with the Post Commissary on your right and the Ordnance Museum across the road on your left. The light changes to green and you advance quickly across Aberdeen Boulevard, but instead of maintaining your acceleration you have to hit your breaks and yield for traffic merging from Aberdeen Boulevard is two turning lanes on your right.

If the traffic gods are with you, you will not be rear-ended by the motorist behind you who is either not paying attention or is new to Aberdeen Proving Ground and not familiar with the unusual traffic pattern at that intersection.

A study by the Military Traffic Management Command found the existing traffic pattern unusual and not in keeping with standard patterns encountered outside the installation's gates.

As a result of the findings, the Directorate of Public Works will initiate a trial traffic pattern suggested by the MTMC.

Beginning in mid-March, the two west-bound lanes of Aberdeen Boulevard that merge with north-bound Maryland Boulevard traffic at the triangle-shaped intersection will be reduced to one lane. In addition, motorists in the through lane will be permitted to turn right

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Markert, the Mid-Atlantic's operations officer, "Another aspect of the program is to increase the public's awareness and understanding of what we do in the military."

There is an added incentive for bringing along a friend or relative. When a DEP refers a friend or relative to a recruiter and that relative or friend subsequently enlists, the DEP is promoted to the rank of private second class before ever setting foot on basic training soil.

Pvt. Paolo Balarmino of Freehold, N.J., is a perfect example. This year he served as a member of a team that demonstrated drill and ceremony commands (hand salute and marching steps) to the assembled DEPs. Last year, in March, Belarmino had just enlisted in the Army and came to APG as a member of the DEP group. He was promoted to private 2nd class because his referral and friend, Steve Yarger, of Howell, N.J., also enlisted and was a part of this year's DEP group. Yarger comes from a military family. His father is a former Army officer.

Belarmino said he thought his DEP visit to APG was beneficial.

"I think the program is beneficial because nobody wants to go to boot camp totally blind -- not knowing anything at all," said Belarmino. "I knew nothing about the military, but after coming to APG last year, I discovered what I was really getting myself into."

Belarmino will soon complete his advanced individual training and report to his next assignment working on Patriot Missile generator systems.

Seven of this year's visitors were promoted to private 2nd class by Col. John "Rocky" Hills,

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Post Shorts

SHORTS, from front page

Officer Garrett Smiley, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, at 1-800-223-3735, extension 60478 or e-mail garet.smiley@usarec.army.mil.

Volunteers needed

If the winter blues have you down, you need something to do or want to meet new people, have some fun and learn new skills, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Education Center is looking for you.

Both the Aberdeen and Edgewood area education centers are looking for volunteer receptionists to help with the day-to-day office operations. Some duties include directing phone calls, filing, providing general information to visitors and assisting with special projects.

All of the volunteer hours accumulated, training received and skills acquired are documented and can be used to advantage when filling out future job applications.

Anyone interested in learning more about these positions should contact Dori Lawton, education specialist, at 410-278-3515 or Alice Surette, volunteer coordinator, at 410-278-5469.

Ambulance transfers for pediatric patients

Children treated at the Harford Memorial Hospital Emergency Room who require hospitalization will be transported to Upper Chesapeake Medical Center in Bel Air. TRICARE beneficiaries may be charged a copayment for the civilian ambulance transfer to Upper Chesapeake Medical Center for pediatric admissions.

However, if your child should require emergency medical services for life threatening conditions such as poisoning, convulsions, high fever and other acute conditions, call 911 or seek care at the nearest civilian hospital emergency room.

MCSC offers scholarships

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is currently accepting applications for scholarship money. Applicants must be spouses or children of military members (active duty, retired, or reserve). Applications are available on Aberdeen Proving Ground at the Post Office, library, Thrift Shop, and Education Center. They are also available at Harford Community College and local high schools. The deadline for applying is March 15. For more information, contact Tannia Ross at 410-297-4972.

MCSC has funds for charities, organizations

The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses' Club will donate funds to organizations and charities this spring. Groups interested in placing a request for funds should do so in writing. Requests should include name of organization requesting funds, the manner in which the funds will be used, list of other fund raising efforts, and a contact person for the organization (name, address and telephone number). Requests must be postmarked by April 2. Submit requests to the Military and Civilian Spouses' Club, P.O. Box 752, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005.

For more information call MCSC at 410-273-9663.

EAOWC to donate funds

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club will donate funds to services and charities this spring. If your group or organization is interested in receiving a donation, submit a request in writing by March 15 to: Susan Burnett, EAOWC Services and Charities, 3 Plumb Point Loop, APG, MD 21005. Be as specific as possible in stating the purpose for which the funds will be used. Also, include the name, title, address and phone number of a contact person.

Scholarships offered by EA Officers' Wives Club

The Edgewood Area Officers' Wives Club will administer a \$1,000 scholarship on behalf of the United Services Planning Association and Independent Research Agency Educational Foundation. Additional scholarships will be offered as funds allow.

Applicants must be a high school senior or college student and the child or spouse of an active duty, retired or deceased servicemember who will attend college during the 2001-2002 school year. Reserve and National Guard members are not currently eligible. Applications may be obtained at all Harford County high school guidance offices, the Edgewood Area Thrift Shop and the EA branch library. Completed applications must be received by March 14.

(The Aberdeen Area Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is also administering USPA and IRA scholarships using identical forms. Students can apply for both scholarships, but may win only one of the two.)

Summer program has openings for first through ninth graders

The Aberdeen and Edgewood School Age and Middle School Services has summer openings for children who are presently enrolled in first through ninth grades. The program, June 19 through Aug. 18, Monday through Friday, 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., offers safe, fun-filled, developmental opportunities for your child, such as swimming, bowling

and field trips. You may sign up for the weeks that fit your summer schedule.

Tuition fees are based on total family income and will be determined at the time of registration. Mark your calendar. Spaces are limited. Open registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration packets and appointments will be available at the Central Registration Office, building 2485, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

March 19 to 23 is registration for single military and civilians, dual military and military with a working spouse. March 26 to 30 is registration for civilians with a working spouse. April 2 to 6 is registration for contractors and all other civilians and military personnel.

For questions or further information, call the Central Registration Office at 410-278-7479/7571.

Hispanic Employment Program Committee to meet March 20

The Hispanic Employment Program is seeking individuals, both military and civilian, to participate in committee activities. There are many projects available to learn essential skills for furthering your career. The focus of the committee is to educate people about Hispanic heritage and deal with employment issues. The next meeting will be held in the Aberdeen area, building 2043's conference room, on Tuesday, March 20, from 2 to 3 p.m.

For more information contact Joanne Holloway (Edgewood Area), 410-436-3628 or Cindy Sepulveda (Aberdeen Area) 410-278-1131.

Submit AFAP suggestions today

APG community members are invited to submit suggestions on improving the quality of life at Aberdeen Proving Ground for consideration at the Army Family Action Plan, Symposium XVI.

Suggested topics include medical, dental, commissary, AAFES, housing, youth, education, employment, safety and relocation. Issues should answer the following questions: What is the problem? Why is it a problem? What is the solution? Suggestions must include your name and telephone number and answer all three questions to be considered. Send them to building 324, First Floor, ATTN: Alice Surette or FAX 410-278-7011, by March 20.

The symposium, intended to identify quality of life issues, will be held April 10 through 12 at Top of the Bay.

Representatives from throughout APG will participate in one of four workgroups. A special youth work group will be held on April 11 to discuss issues that concern the youth in our community.

If you are interested in being a delegate or would like to find out more about the AFAP process, contact Alice Surette at 278-5469.

Ordnance to be destroyed

APG's Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment, in conjunction with Aberdeen Test Center, is destroying unexploded ordnance at a remote area in the Aberdeen Area. The destruction does not include chemical warfare munitions, and will be conducted on Fridays and Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For more information, contact George Mercer, chief, APG Public Affairs Office, 410-278-1147 or 1-800-688-8705.

Purchase request submission schedule set for FY 2001

The following schedule should be used for the submission of purchase requests for fiscal year 2001 and maintenance for fiscal year 2002 for the U.S. Army Robert Morris Acquisition Center.

Noncommercial Items over \$100,000 by May 15. There may be instances, though, where this date may not be adequate for complex actions. It is required that these actions be coordinated with the branch chief prior to this date.

Noncommercial Items between \$2,500 and \$100,000 by June 15. Commercial items between \$100,000 and \$5 million by June 15. Short-of-Award over \$2,500 by June 15. Commercial Items under \$100,000 by Aug. 15. Maintenance for fiscal year 2002 by June 15.

PD2, the new DoD contracting automated system, has been fielded at both the Aberdeen and Edgewood sites. Experience and updates to the system indicate a continued learning curve. Although the Center purchase request submission schedule has been increased to permit additional time to process actions through this new system, you are advised to submit your year-end requirements as early as is reasonable to minimize the possibility of funds going unobligated at year's end. Submission of requests after the scheduled dates will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Refer questions to Joyce Roberts, APG Branch, joyce.roberts@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, 410-278-0869; or Fred Thomas, Edgewood Branch, fred.thomas@sbccom.apgea.army.mil, 410-436-2554.

Register now for HCC college classes

Registration is currently underway for credit classes in Harford Community College's Spring Term II. Classes begin March 19; students

may register in person or add a class up to March 17. Courses for the session include Accounting, Automotive Technology, Business Administration, Biology, Criminal Justice, Interior Design, Mathematics, Physical Education and Psychology.

Registration is accepted at HCC's Aberdeen Proving Ground Center Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and alternate Fridays, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., March 2 and 16. For more information, call 410-272-2338. Students may register in person in the Office of Registration and Records in HCC's Chesapeake Center: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Payment is due at the time of registration.

The college accepts VISA, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. Mail-in or fax registrations, with payment by credit card, will be accepted through March 17. Registration must be accompanied by credit card payment information, including account number, expiration date, and signature. The fax registration number is 410-836-4169. Forms are available in the Schedule of Credit Classes catalogue, which was mailed to all Harford County residents, from HCC's Aberdeen Proving Ground Center, or from HCC's Office of Registration and Records.

For more information, call 410-836-4222 or 410-879-8920, ext. 222, or stop by the Registration and Records area in the Chesapeake Center on campus.

547th Engineer Battalion Reunion

The 547th Engineer Battalion (Cbt) Association and its attached units (552d and 1328th) will hold its 15th annual reunion from Thursday, Aug. 2 through Sunday, Aug. 5, at the Radisson Governors Inn, Durham, N.C. The Radisson Governors Inn is located on I-40, Exit 280 at Davis Drive, Research Triangle Park. For reunion pre-registration, call John Joyner, 919-596-7940, 2114 Baltic Ave., Durham, N.C. 27707; or Ursula Allen, 253-582-4649, 9111 Forest Ave. SW, Lakewood, WA 98498. For hotel reservations, call 919-549-8631 or 1-800-333-3333.

Easter Bunny to make appearance at Easter brunch

The post's Sunday brunch series continues with an Easter Brunch scheduled for April 15. The first seating will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; the second seating is from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The late seating fills first, so make your reservations early.

The menu will include an omelet station, French toast, waffles, sausage, bacon, creamed beef with biscuits, home fries, grits, Danish, muffins, cereal, carved top round of beef and smoked ham, seafood creole, roast leg of lamb with peaches and mint jelly, pasta, potatoes and rice, vegetables, desserts, and beverages, including champagne and bloody Marys. The Easter Bunny will give baskets to children.

Cost is \$13.95 for adults, \$6.95 for children ages 6 to 11 and free for children under age 6. Price does not include gratuity. Make reservations by April 12. Advance payment with a major credit card will be accepted. For reservations, call 410-278-3062/2552.

PTA needs volunteers

Roye-Williams Elementary School needs volunteers for the PTA. You do not need to be a parent to volunteer. For more information or to volunteer, call Tom DiCuirci, 410-272-5349, or Sue Osborne, 410-273-5536. Your support will help make this year a great success for our children.

Legal Office offers advice

For emergency legal advice, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Army Garrison Legal Assistance Office, continues to see eligible clients on a walk-in basis every Thursday in building 310, wing 2, 8 to 11 a.m.

For more information, please contact the Legal Assistance Office at 410-278-1583/1584. For any non-emergency situation, call the office to schedule an appointment

Outreach Office offers stockpile information

Get answers about how the Army is safely eliminating the mustard agent stockpile stored at APG. Call or visit the Edgewood Chemical Stockpile Outreach Office located at 1011B Woodbridge Center Way, Edgewood. The Outreach Office is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call 410-676-6800 or visit the website at www.pmed.apgea.army.mil.

Job opportunities

There are a great many job opportunities available on post in Morale Welfare and Recreation, Non-appropriated Funds, and at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. There is currently a significant shortage of personnel to provide these services to soldiers, airmen, Marines, family members and retirees.

Apply for AAFES positions at the Post Exchange, and for MWR positions in the basement of building 305.

APG News

The *APG News*, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the *APG News* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 13,500.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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For advertising matters, call Homestead Publishing, 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 324, Second Floor, AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5005; call the editor at 410-278-1150, DSN 298-1150; fax it to 410-278-2570; or e-mail it to editor@apg.army.mil. Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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PET OF THE WEEK



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Domestic Divas

Grace or Kelly will treat you like royalty. These adorable sisters are less than one year-old. Playful and cuddly with distinctive black and white markings, either one will brighten a pet-less home. Both are available for adoption at the post Veterinary Treatment Facility. You do not have to be active-duty military to adopt a pet. For information, call the VTF at 410-278-4604.

Army to field new suicide prevention plan

Army News Service

The Army has developed a new suicide prevention campaign plan that officials said should be released to the field this spring.

“Soldiers, Leaders and Communities Saving Lives” is the plan’s title. It focuses on training people about how to recognize early signs of suicidal behavior and how to intervene.

The plan was formed after the Army had a 26 percent increase in active-duty suicides between 1997 and 1999, said Lt. Col. Jerry Swanner, the Army suicide prevention program manager at the Pentagon. He said the problem seemed to culminate in January last year when the Army had six confirmed suicides in the first five days of the year.

“Obviously, this caused great concern within the Army leadership,” Swanner said, adding that it prompted Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki “to direct a complete review of the Army’s suicide prevention program.”

The Department of the Army Suicide Prevention Working Group — which consists of policy officers, chaplains, and psychiatrists across the Army staff — launched an exhaustive study, Swanner said. The group examined numerous reports and studies including the U.S. Surgeon General’s “Call to Action to Prevent Suicide,” published in 1999.

The group also met with leading civilian psychiatrists in the field of suicide prevention, including Dr. David Shaffer, who was commissioned by the assistant secretary of Defense for Health Affairs in 1996 to analyze all DoD Suicide Prevention programs.

“We used to believe that suicides were from stress, and if we reduced stress that would reduce the risks of suicides,” said Swanner.

However, he said recent studies indicate the majority of suicides occur due to some form of psychiatric disorder.

Stress can trigger the desire to commit suicide, but stress alone is not enough for someone to commit suicide, said Col. David Orman, the psychiatry consultant to The Surgeon General of the Army.

The new Army suicide prevention model focuses on four major areas — developing life-coping skills, encouraging help-seeking behavior, raising vigilance on suicide awareness, and integrating and synchronizing unit and community programs.

Although draft versions of the new campaign plan have already been sent to the Army’s major commands, Swanner said he expects the offi-

cial release sometime within the next six weeks.

He said the working group is waiting for a final DoD directive concerning “psychological autopsies” and the requirements for a standardized suicide surveillance format.

The new campaign plan encourages leaders to reinforce positive life-coping skills. One such program, which Swanner said originated in the 25th Infantry Division, is “Building Strong and Ready Families.” It focuses on developing interpersonal communication skills between married couples. The Army has recently funded a pilot program for a select-ed number of brigades.

About 75 percent of all soldiers who committed suicide last year were experiencing “significant relationship problems” in their personal life, said Lt. Col. Glen Bloomstrom, a chaplain in the Family Ministry Office for the Army’s Chief of Chaplains.

Some recruits enter the Army predisposed to mental illness, Swanner said. He said the Army Surgeon’s General Office and U.S. Army Training and Docrine Command are now determining the feasibility of pre-screening recruits for dysfunctional behavior during the early stages of initial entry training. He said those determined unfit for duty would ideally be separated before they reach their first unit of assignment.

On the other hand, Swanner said the Army should not discriminate against those who seek and receive mental health treatment. He would like to change the stigma associated with mental health care.

“We must tear down these barriers that prevent our soldiers from receiving the professional mental help that some so desperately need and deserve,” Swanner said, adding that dramatic change could only occur if there’s a shift in the “gung-ho, drive-on” mentality that implies seeking help is a “sign of weakness.”

When soldiers realize they need help, it’s a sign of individual strength and maturity, Swanner said, not of weakness.

In the new program, the Army is turning to Living Works Education, a public service organization based in Calgary, Canada, that has developed a workshop titled “Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training” or ASIST. The focus of the training is to provide anyone who might come in contact with a person at risk for suicide with the confidence and tools to take immediate life-saving actions, Swanner said, until the individual can be seen by a mental health care professional.

The goal is to eventually have one ASIST-trained soldier within every

battalion to assist the commander in determining the actual risk of self-injurious behavior, Swanner said. Chaplains now attend ASIST work-shops as part of their formal training.

But Swanner said all counselors that come in contact with soldiers would benefit from the workshop. Trial defense lawyers, military police and even unit leaders preparing for an extended deployment should take ASIST training, Swanner said. To accomplish this goal, the campaign plan calls for two ASIST trainers at every installation. Currently there are only three ASIST-qualified trainers, Swanner said, but that number will soon change as TRADOC is sponsoring a trainers course for 30 of their chaplains during the first week of March. ASIST should be considered as “triage” for suicidal risk, Swanner said.

“Chaplains have been receiving training on suicide prevention for a long time now, but ASIST will give everyone that receives the training a common language,” said Lt. Col. Gregory Black, staff chaplain for the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine.

“If a commander or counselor has to refer a soldier to Mental Health, they can give a proper risk assessment.”

To standardize suicide prevention training, USACHPPM and the American Association of Suicidology have published “Suicide Prevention, A Resource Manual for the U.S. Army.” The manual contains three lesson plans: one for individuals, one for formal gatekeepers, and one for medical professionals. The manual is available on the USACHMMP web site at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dhpw/default/htm>.

Throughout the creation of the campaign plan, one theme was emphasized over and over again by the senior Army leadership, Swanner said. That is, suicide prevention is a leader’s responsibility. Therefore, he said the plan was prepared to assist installation commanders in the refinement of their own suicide prevention policies and programs that are outlined in AR 600-63 and DA Pam 600-24.

“The bottom line is to get involved and take action,” Swanner said. “After all, you may be the very last person to have a chance to help.”

(Editor’s note: Information compiled by Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs, ARNEWS senior military correspondent.)

Commentary—Suicide Prevention is Everyone’s Job

by Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

It sometimes takes a village to help save “an Army of one.”

The Army’s new suicide prevention campaign seeks to train more people on how to recognize early signs of suicidal behavior and intervene until a mental health professional is available.

The bottom line is — everyone needs to get involved.

“Soldiers, Leaders and Communities Saving Lives” is the campaign motto. As the motto indicates, it’s time to stop thinking that suicide prevention is just the commander’s responsibility. It’s the community’s responsibility when it’s not communicated to the proper officials that a soldier is in need of help.

The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and the American Association of Suicidology said in the last 10 years suicide has been the second leading cause of deaths in the U.S. Army, and that 10 times more soldiers have committed

suicide than have died in hostile fire.

I’ve heard soldiers complain about their free time being taken away because they had “crazy horse” watch. Most soldiers are unaware that suicide is a psychiatric disorder, and they think that the majority of individuals who threaten to commit suicide just want attention or they are trying to get out of work.

Unfortunately it could only take one time for a soldier’s cries to go unheard before he decides to take his own life.

There are four types of suicidal behavior — thoughts, gestures, attempts and the completed act, according to USACHPPM.

The American Association for Suicidology said 6 percent of the American population has thought about suicide within the last 12 months.

Gestures are made by those who act upon the thought, but do not want to die. Attempts are failed suicides, and then there are those who actually take their own life.

We cannot make the determination whether someone is serious about harming himself or

herself. When I say we, I mean those of us that are not mental health professionals, counselors or chaplains.

The new program will make it mandatory for all soldiers and Army civilian personnel to attend a briefing on suicide risk identification and what support agencies are available in the community.

This briefing shouldn’t be viewed as another disruption in the duty day. Most suicides are preventable and being knowledgeable on suicidal behavior can possibly help you save your buddy.

The Army was the first military branch to establish a suicide prevention program. It was started in 1984 and until now there have not been any major revisions to the policy. The experts in the psychiatric field devised the new prevention plan, but the only way it’s going to work is if soldiers learn how to recognize the symptoms of suicidal behavior and take them seriously.

NCO Journal back in print after three year hiatus

The only magazine devoted to the noncommissioned officer corps in the U.S. Army made its return to the field this month after three years of non-publication in hardcopy form.

The NCO Journal, a quarterly publication that made its first debut in 1991, is a professional development tool, officials said, designed to provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas and information, support training, education and development of noncommissioned officers.

“As part of the magazine’s mission, it also fosters a closer bond among the NCO corps,” said Staff Sgt. Donald Sparks, editor-in-chief of the NCO Journal. “This magazine is long overdue in getting it back to our Army and the NCO Corps. For the last three years, there have been numerous requests and correspondence concerning the magazine’s status.”

Sparks spearheaded the magazine’s return by designing the entire publication, which he said

was no easy task. After the three years when the magazine was sporadically posted on the web, there were few articles to consider when funding was restored for printing, he said.

“The success of the NCO Journal depends primarily on the NCOs in the field,” Sparks said. “Three years is a long time for any publication to recover after not printing, but as word got out about the magazine’s return, articles made their way to my desk.”

The newest journal features articles ranging from the Army’s current promotion policy, the indefinite re-enlistment policy, building on the Army’s seven Core Values and an interview with Sergeant Major of the Army Jack L. Tilley. It also includes a book review (a regular feature) and letters to the editor.

“More than anything else, the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy wanted to ensure that the magazine would be a quality product for the NCOs,” Sparks

said. “When designing this magazine, our mindset was creating a publication which NCOs would be proud to have in their hands and praise as their own.”

The NCO Journal themes for this fiscal year have already been identified: spring — Training/Readiness; summer — Noncommissioned Officer Education System; and fall — NCO/Officer Relationship. The deadline for the upcoming spring issue is Feb. 28 for articles and artwork.

Sparks also admitted that not everyone may get the magazine right away because of an outdated mailing and distribution list. Its target circulation is one magazine for every seven noncommissioned officers.

“Distribution is definitely something we’re going to resolve to ensure that the magazine reaches its target audience,” Sparks said. “At the same time, once the magazines get to the unit, hopefully they aren’t stashed away in a

soldier’s private library. We want to make sure that all NCOs get access to the information inside the magazine.”

By publishing articles and letters from the field, NCOs will be able to express their views, expertise, knowledge and experiences for all to share and learn, Sparks said.

“As stated in the magazine, I can assure to the NCO corps, that the NCO Journal is both informative and entertaining to the reader,” Sparks said. “The continued success of this magazine is up to every soldier wearing chevrons in the Army. We need the NCO corps to put pen to pad so we can continue to develop.”

For more information about the NCO Journal or to send articles to the magazine, e-mail atss-sj-nco-journal@bliss.army.mil or call 915-568-9068.

(Editor’s note: Compiled by the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy’s Public Affairs Office.)

Swan Creek hands out annual pats on the back

Henson, Nokes garner top honors

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Swan Creek Inn held its second annual awards program to honor its most diligent workers. Led by Swan Creek Inn lodging manager Carol Lamp, the Inn’s division supervisors presented certificates in 25 categories to 40 recipients.

The top honors went to Employee of the Year, Mable Henson and runner up, Dennis Nokes.

Henson, recommended by Cathy McKinzie, is a housekeeping staff leader. The Baltimore County resident has been with the Inn nearly 15 years. She said she loves the “stable environment and the family-like atmosphere.”

“The best part of this job is the people,” Henson said. “We’re like one big family, a fully functioning unit.”

Nokes is an administrative clerk who has been with the facility about four years.

He said he was “surprised and shocked” to even be considered.

“I had no clue,” the Havre de Grace native said.

Describing himself as “someone who just comes in and does his job,” Nokes thanked his coworkers, supervisors and friends, “from the bottom of my heart.”

Nokes was recommended by Barbara Adams.

Henson and Nokes received cash awards for \$2,000 and \$1,000, respectively.

<i>Employee of the year</i> <i>Runner up</i>	Mable Henson Dennis Nokes
<i>Most Attentive</i> <i>Most Clever</i> <i>Most Confident</i>	Lynn Sims Doug Tillman Janet Beason Bobbie Henderson
<i>Most Congenial</i> <i>Most Considerate</i>	Teresa Martin Danny Jones Linda Thomas Linda Maymon Jennifer Coffey
<i>Most Consistent</i>	Mike Wolf Susan Sarver Ann Gentry Anne Akins Warren Tull Julian Christy Duane Wassum Tok Tipton Sheila Baldwin Penny Guyer Heidi Warriner Paula Cooper Sonny Fazenbaker Bill Townley Brenda Tildon Neal Vaught Cheryl Lewis Danny Banks Connie Arnold Lisa Unruh Teresa Nemeth Mike Zyski Sandy Fazenbaker Emmett Toombs Cedric McDaniel Barbara McCann Vic Stanley Greg Morris Edith Rabago
<i>Most Cordial</i> <i>Most Dependable</i> <i>Most Determined</i> <i>Most Diligent</i> <i>Most Eager</i>	
<i>Most Efficient</i>	
<i>Most Friendly</i> <i>Most Happy</i> <i>Most Helpful</i>	
<i>Most Improved</i>	
<i>Most Innovative</i> <i>Most Knowledgeable</i> <i>Most Organized</i> <i>Most Professional</i> <i>Most Potential</i> <i>Most Talented</i>	
<i>Most Trustworthy</i> <i>Most Understanding</i>	



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Top, a teary-eyed Mable Henson, housekeeping leader at the Swan Creek Inn, center, holds her Employee of the Year plaque after the Swan Creek Inn Employee Recognition Awards ceremony at the Post Recreation Center. Along with the plaque, she received a \$2,000 cash award. With Henson are her supervisor, Cathy McKinzie, left, and lodging manager Carol Lamp. Right, supervisor Barbara Adams congratulates Dennis Nokes, runner-up for the Swan Creek Inn Employee of the Year. Nokes, an administrative clerk and Havre de Grace native, received an award of \$1,000.



Why must I file a Maryland income tax return?

By Alene Williams
Legal Assistance Office

One of the most frequent comments we hear at the Legal Assistance Office is, “I am not a legal resident of Maryland. Why are they withholding Maryland taxes from my salary?”

The fact is that if you work in Maryland, with few exceptions, Maryland taxes will be withheld.

Military members who do not claim Maryland as their legal state of residence but have income from Maryland sources (not their military income) will file a nonresident return, Form 505.

Civilian spouses of active duty military who reside in Maryland more than six months during that tax year and have income from

Maryland sources become a statutory resident for tax purposes and must file a resident return, Form 502. A civilian spouse who lived in Maryland less than six months should file a nonresident return.

Maryland does not require a couple to file a joint Maryland return just because they filed a joint federal return. The tax rate is the same in Maryland regardless of filing status. Should you decide to file a joint Maryland return, special worksheets are provided in the Maryland resident booklet. The nonresident booklet has special instructions for non-resident military personnel.

If you have questions regarding your Maryland tax filing requirements or other income tax obligations, call the tax center at 410-278-2020.

HCC provides computer training to APG personnel

“Aberdeen Proving Ground is one of the largest consumers of our corporate computer training,” said Pamela Marcomin, coordinator of Harford Community College’s Corporate Computer Training Program. “The College provides computer training to military and civilian personnel at the proving ground, as well as its tenant activities, through the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center.” The Human Resources Development Division, NECPOC, headed by Marla Krogh, oversees and coordinates training for APG and nineteen other major military organizations throughout the Northeast.

Bob Cronin, Human Resource Development Specialist for NECPOC, is HCC’s contact for computer training coordination.

“We’ve established a good working relationship with Harford Community College to provide computer training to our employees here at APG,” Cronin said. “The proximity of the HEAT Center is a big benefit to us -- it’s an excellent training facility and HCC’s prices are extremely competitive with training advertised by other vendors.”

According to Marcomin, HCC provides Microsoft Office 2000 training to civilian personnel at the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., through the relationship with APG’s NECPOC.

“For technical computer personnel, we’ve provided classes in Windows 2000 Network Administration at the new library computer labs on campus at HCC,” she said. “We’ve trained more than 1500 military and civilian staff from the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas since we began our relationship with NECPOC.

“We offer five modules of Office 2000 or 97, with MS Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook, and any specialty classes they might want, such as MS Project,” Marcomin said. “The courses are divided between the HEAT Center and the CPOC computer labs at APG.”

Harford Community College provides computer training and corporate management training to many local companies at any site the employer requests. For more information, contact the Corporate Training Department of HCC at 410-836-4175.

APG Red Cross blood drives



Give the gift of life - donate blood at any of the upcoming Red Cross blood drives at APG.

Thursday, March 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Aberdeen Test Center, Ginger Loeschner, 410-278-2661

Monday, March 12, 5 to 9 p.m., 16th Ordnance Battalion, Command Sgt. Maj. Godofredo Posadas, 410-278-8595

Tuesday, March 13, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Edgewood Chapel, Larry Kaye, 410-278-2087

Tuesday, March 20, 4 to 8 p.m., 143rd Ordnance Battalion, Capt. Amanda Akers, 410-436-3301.

DPW, DLES to oversee single-lane traffic cone trial

TRAFFIC CHANGE, from front page

onto Maryland Boulevard at the traffic light.

“This is an effort to resolve the problems being encountered at that intersection,” said Harry Greveris, deputy director, Department of Public Works. “The plan is to decrease a conflict at the point where three lanes merge together; one through lane on Maryland Boulevard and two turning lanes from Aberdeen Boulevard onto Maryland Boulevard.”

The change is being implemented as an effort to increase the safety of the off-post commute. The MTMC study found an incidence of 12 accidents with three injuries in a 12-month period at that site, declaring it a High Accident Location.

Greveris said the down side may be some stacking of cars in the approach to the turn along Aberdeen Boulevard during the evening rush hour.

Traffic control devices are scheduled to be installed beginning Saturday, March 10, to prepare for the Monday morning commute. Motorists should be on the look out for orange cones that will

mark the lane changes and for directions from the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security traffic police who will be monitoring the situation.

At a logistical meeting between DPW and DLES personnel, Greveris said the trial, set to last 30 days, could become a permanent solution, depending on findings.

“Eventually the lights will be changed to reflect the new pattern.”

Future changes include the Maryland and Harford boulevards and High Point Road intersections near Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic and the Aberdeen Boulevard, Colleran and Longs Corner Road intersection near building 305.

The MTMC Engineering Agency is the Department of Defense executive agency for transportation engineering matters. The agency executes the Highways for National Defense Program, including the Defense Access Road and Traffic Engineering Programs, and provides engineering consulting expertise to the military services.

Aberdeen Lions Club Scholarships

The Aberdeen Lions Club is offering scholarships to students who live in the Aberdeen High School district, which includes APG.

The \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded to three graduating high school seniors or those currently enrolled in college. The scholarships must be used at schools of higher education, either colleges, universities, or trade schools.

Application forms are available from guidance counselors at Aberdeen High School or Harford

Technical High School, the Aberdeen branch of the Harford County Public Library, or on the Aberdeen Lions Club web site at www.aberdeenlions.org.

The application, and a current, official transcript, must be postmarked by April 20 and mailed to the club’s scholarship committee (address shown on application).

The scholarships result from the proceeds of the club’s fund-raisers throughout the year.

Sports & Fitness

TAML upsets Company B 143rd, 47-46



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Referee Joe Jefferson keeps pace as Mike Blair, 22, and Bill Bryant, 21, from 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory race to cut off Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion's Calvin Snead, 23. The 520th TAML won the game, 47-46 despite flooring only four players for the game's final seconds.

All Stars, post-season play set to begin

By Yvonne Johnson
APG News

As of Mar. 2, the six Intramural Basketball playoff berths were all but clinched.

In the Aberdeen Division, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade was the clear winner with a 13-1 record. Close behind in second-place was the Noncommissioned Officer Academy at 11-3 followed by the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment at 11-4.

Company C, 143rd Ordnance Battalion led the Edgewood Division with its 13-1 record. In second-place, at 11-3 was Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion and Company A, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, at 8-6 was in third.

Post season/All Stars

The post-season tournament begins Saturday, March 10, 10 a.m. in the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center and Russell Gym. Play continues Sunday, March 11, 10 a.m. in the AA Athletic Center.

The Post Championship is set for Monday, March 12 at 7 p.m. at a location to be announced. An “if necessary” game will be played Tuesday, March 13 at 7 p.m.

The top players in both divisions will tune up for the post season in the annual All Star games. Game one is March 7, 7 p.m. in the Edgewood Area.

Game two is March 8, 7 p.m. in the Aberdeen Area and an “if necessary” game will be played in the EA March 9, 7 p.m.

EA basketball

It was an evening of upsets for Edgewood Division basketball.

In the first game of a Feb. 28 double-header, Company C 143rd Ordnance Battalion saw its perfect record shattered by an unlikely defeat at the hands of Company A 143rd Ordnance Battalion, 47-44.

Company A 143rd all but clinched a third-place finish and a playoff berth, with its win over 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory on Feb. 26 and a Company B 143rd loss to HHC 143rd that same evening.

The 520th TAML, playing its final game of the season, stunned Company B 143rd Ordnance Battalion with a 47-46 win in the most bizarre ending of the season.

At the game's start, Company B 143rd still had hopes of advancing to the post-season.

Key contributions by Company B 143rd's Keith Strain, Rodricka Sutton and Troy Griffen kept the team in the game that 520th TAML led for most of the way.

After trailing by as much as 14 points, Company B 143rd took advantage of several 520th TAML fouls to even it up 44-44 in the final two minutes.

TAML's star player, James Mitchell, who finished with 21

points, fouled out with less than two minutes left in the game. With no bench to call on, and down 46-45, TAML was forced to finish the game with a four-man lineup.

Shooting from the foul line with seven seconds on the clock, TAML's Bill Bryant tied it up with his first shot. Bryant's second shot bounced off the rim and was grabbed by teammate Michael Henly who was immediately fouled by Company B players.

Four seconds to go.

At the line, Henly makes one-of-one for a 47-46 lead.

Time out Company B 143rd.

Three seconds to go.

Company B 143rd's William Sherer inboundes the ball from mid-court. He throws a bullet to Rodney Mozard, who is waiting near the foul line.

Mozard streaks the ball across court to Troy Griffin who tosses up a beauty of a jumper.

It misses. Game over.

Elated 520th TAML players and fans celebrated. Company B 143rd players sat stunned on their bench for several minutes after the final buzzer.

The teams were two shining examples of the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.

Basketball Update

The following results were reported for Intramural Basketball for the week ending March 2.

Aberdeen Division Results

Feb. 27
USMC, 66; Company C 16th, 41
NCOA, 40; Company E 16th, 36
March 1
NCOA, 58; Company C 16th, 51
HHC 61st, 55; Company A 16th, 47
Standings
HHC 61st 13-1
NCOA 11-1
USMC 11-4
Company C 16th 9-7
HHC 16th 8-7
Company E 16th8-8
KUSAHC 6-10
Company A 16th 3-13

Edgewood Division Results

Feb. 26
HHC 143rd, 50; Company B 143rd, 48
Company A 143rd, 55; 520th TAML, 51
Feb. 28
Company A 143rd, 47; Company C 143rd, 44
520th TAML, 47; Company B 143rd, 46
Standings
Company C 143rd 13-1
HHC 143rd 11-3
Company A 143rd 8-6
Company B 143rd 5-9
520th TAML 4-11

The week’s high scorers

Aberdeen Division

Feb. 26
HHC 61st, Thomas 28, Thompson 21, Pennyamon 11, Hewitt 11
KUSAHC, Fantroy 18
Company A 16th, Pruitt 18
Company E 16th, Fewell 17, Gibbons 14, Alexander 10
NCOA, Guy 8
USMC, Barfield 23
Feb. 27
Company C 16th, Windham 13, Strong 11
USMC, Barfield 32, Andrews 13
NCOA, Johnson 13
Company E 16th, Gibbons 11, Givens 10
March 1
Company A 16th, Palmer 15, Williams 10
HHC 61st, Hewitt 18, Thomas 16, Thompson 13
NCOA, Smith 24, McNear 10
Company C 16th, Windham 19, Strong 14, Laws 11

Edgewood Division

Feb. 26
520th TAML, Mitchell 33, Smith 12
Company A 143rd, Dansby 18, Simon 14
HHC 143rd, Patterson 14
Company B 143rd, Daniel 9, Green 9, Montez 8
Feb. 28
Company C 143rd, Coleman 14
Company A 143rd, Dansby, 21
520th TAML, Mitchell 21
Company B 143rd, Sutton 14, Strain 11

The Military and Civilian Spouses’ Club will host a 5-kilometer race beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 21 at APG’s Fanshaw Field. Age categories are 15 and under, 16 to 20, 21 to 30, 31 to 40, 41 to 50, 51 to 60, 61 and over.

Register at the APG Athletic Center, building 3300. The entry fee is \$10 for those registered by April 10; \$12 for those registered by April 20; and \$15 the day of the race from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three male and female winners. Medallions will be given to the first three finishers in each category. The first 200 participants registered will receive a free tee shirt. For more information call Diane Wilson, 410-297-8508, or Amy Carlson, 410-939-6429. USPA & IRA, APG Federal Credit Union, and the Ordnance Corps Association are sponsors of the race. All proceeds will benefit welfare and scholarship funds.

MCSC Hospitality Run 5K Registration Form

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Age_____ M or F_____ SHIRT SIZE: XS S M L XL

As a condition to my participation in the MCSC 5K Run, I hereby for myself and heirs, executors and administrators waive and release any rights and claims for damages for personal injury or otherwise, which I may have against the United States of America, the U.S. Army, Community Recreation Division, MCSC and agents thereof and any other group of persons involved in the MCSC Hospitality Run, for claims of liability. By my signature, I hereby acknowledge reading and understanding this clause and certify that I am physically fit and have trained sufficiently for this event.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE:_____

Parent/Guardian signature is required if participant is under 18 years of age.

Parent or Guardian signature:_____ DATE:_____

Make checks payable to: MCSC and mail to: MCSC, P.O. Box 752, APG, MD 21005, or fax to 410-436-7165.
Registration forms can also be picked up at the Hoyle Gym, APG Thrift Shop, PX and the Commissary



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON
Keith Strain, 32, from Company B 143rd and Bill Bryant, 21, from 520th TAML reach for the ball during the Feb. 28 meeting between 520th Theater Army Medical Laboratory and Company B, 143rd Ordnance Battalion.

APG goal is \$40,000

CAMPAIGN, from front page

been on active duty more than 30 days.

Marge Fissel, AER officer for APG, said soldiers are given loans, grants or a combination loan and grant.

To keep its tax-exempt status, AER must raise one-third of its budget each year through donations. The other two-thirds are generated through loan repayments and investment income. With a five percent operating budget, ninety-five percent of donations return to the military community in the form of loans and grants.

“Assistance for emergency travel is our greatest expenditure,” Fissel said, and added that many of those helped are advanced individual training students and young families who are far from home. For many soldiers and their families, emergency travel is difficult without some financial help. AER provides a way to get timely financial assistance.

“AER helps us take care of our soldiers”, Fissel said. “Through contributions provided by soldiers to soldiers, we are taking care of our family.”

Spidel reminded tenant representatives that many of the same people who contribute to the

success of the CFC each year are eager to contribute to AER as well, but need to be informed of the campaign in order to make a contribution.

“You folks have an important mission,” Spidel said. “Your mission is to get the word out, to inform people about AER, and give every soldier an opportunity to contribute.”

Johnston echoed Spidel’s words emphasizing the need for every member of the Army family to know what AER does, how it works, and how they can help. Recognizing that many civilians with or without Army ties want to contribute to AER, Johnston said no one should be turned away.

“We can’t solicit donations from civilian employees or contractors, “ Johnston said. “But we can make them aware of the program so they can contribute,” he said.

Soldiers can donate through allotment, cash or check. Civilian contributors are limited to cash or check donations.

Gen. Erik K. Shinseki, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, issued a statement last week noting that AER assisted more than 55,000 soldiers last year and distributed \$37 million.

“For 59 years AER has demonstrated its

commitment to soldiers, families and our nation by providing emergency financial relief,” Shinseki said. “Join me in continuing our assistance to our soldiers and their families during their time of need.”

A statement issued by Gen. John G. Coburn, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, echoed the comments of Shinseki.

Coburn said that over the last 59 years, AER has assisted 2.75 million soldiers and their families, offering more than \$760 million in aid.

“Despite the reduction in the size of the Army, the need of some soldiers for financial assistance has not diminished and is not expected to decline in the foreseeable future,” Coburn said.

The AMC commander stressed the importance of continued support to AER as a way to assist others in the Army family.

“Remember, when you are contributing to AER you are truly ‘Helping the Army take care of its own,’” Coburn said.

The campaign, with a local goal of \$40,000, runs through the end of May. For more information, see your organization’s representative, or call Johnston at 410-278-3000/2104.

AER campaign 2001 points of contact

Organization	Representative	Phone No.
CHPPM	Lt. Maung Myat	410-436-7624
HHC 61st	Sgt. Byrant	410-278-8576
HHC 16th	Staff Sgt. Bolling	410-278-5212
A Co.	Staff Sgt. King	410-278-8732
B Co.	Sgt. Taylor	410-278-4315
C Co.	Sgt. Nives	410-278-8579
HHC 143rd	1st Lt. Middlebrooks	410-436-3301
HHC 143rd	Sgt. 1st Class Sanders	410-436-5339
A Co.	1st Lt. Ashcraft	410-436-4443
B Co.	1st Lt. Zuzblo	410-436-4212
C Co.	1st Lt. Heinonen	410-436-3766
NCO Academy	Staff Sgt. Brown	410-278-9130
SBCCOM/TEU	Sfc. Leonard Lee	410-436-3565
MRICD	Spec. Pieper	410-436-2463
AEC	Capt. McNeill	410-436-6831
DLES	Sgt. Farlow	410-306-0557
203rd TIU	Staff Sgt. Crawford	410-278-7833
520th TAML	Staff Sgt. Goodwin	410-436-6018
DTC	Sgt. Mc Gee	410-278-1022
USAG	Spec. Caraballo	410-278-3000
KUSAHC	2nd Lt. Kern	410-278-1770
DENTAC	Sgt. Lewis	410-278-1797
389th Army Band	Spec. Carmack	410-278-8769
CPAC	Cheryl Gatling	410-278-8978
DMPO	Shelley Sines	410-306-2361
OCS 61st Bde	Sgt. 1st Class Weed	410-278-5334

Elect new APG mayors this month

By Cecelia Howard
Family Housing

Because of organizational changes in the U.S. Army Garrison, the Community Life Mayoral Program will now be administered by the Family Housing Office.

During March, elections will be held for mayor, vice mayor and secretary of our family housing communities at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Residents of family housing are encouraged to help select their neighborhood’s representatives.

At APG the family housing communities spread out over many miles. Housing units range from single-family homes to multi-family town homes and mobile home parks. The communities have many common concerns including maintenance and

repair of quarters, child safety, pet control, parking, speeding complaints.

However, each neighborhood is unique, and the mayor can serve as the communication link between the residents and the command, providing a voice for their neighborhood.

Mayors organize community meetings so residents can present their ideas and concerns as well as obtain information on post services and regulations. They also attend monthly meetings with the deputy installation commander and representatives of his staff to propose new projects and identify problems.

Mayors help promote community pride and spirit through community programs and activities.

The 13 designated family housing communities that need mayoral representation are — Bayside Village, Patriot Village, School

Street, Mobile Home Park, New Chesapeake, Plumb Point Loop and Hopkins Loop in the Aberdeen Area, and

Everette Road, Austin/Parrish, Chevron/Clearview, Skippers Point, Grant Court and Deer Run in the Edgewood Area.

Nomination ballots have been mailed to all residents of APG housing areas. If you are 18 years of age or older and would like to volunteer to represent your community or know someone who would, fill out the nomination ballot and return it to the Family Housing Office, building 2727, room 114, fax to 410-306-2019, or email to choward@apg.army.mil.

All nominations must be received by close of business on March 25. For more information contact Cecelia Howard, Family Housing Management Branch, 410-306-2011.

AMCAC website

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Acquisition Center has posted a government purchase card web page designed to be a user-friendly network of information to meet the unique needs of organizations interested in obtaining and maintaining the card. The website supports AMCAC’s service commitment toward its credit card customers. Information concerning the government purchase card program, its administration, required training, references and procedures is contained on this website. The website includes items of particular interest concerning use of government credit cards such as: local news and regulations, required training, discussion areas, policy letters and links to related websites. There is also an automated e-mail link to the agency/organization coordinator for the AMCAC Government Purchase Card program. The website is available at <http://www.sbccom.apgea.army.mil/srs/amcac/CC/index.html>.

Community Notes

FRIDAY
MARCH 9
WEEKLY BINGO

The Weedon-Elliott Ladies Auxiliary, VFW 8126, sponsors weekly bingo every Friday, 7 p.m., at Joseph L. Davis Post 47, American Legion at 501 St. John Street in Havre de Grace.

HOE DOWN

The Harford County Country/Western Dance Association sponsors Country Western dancing each Friday at the American Legion located on Parke Street in Aberdeen. Dancing will be held 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The instructor will announce lessons. Everyone is welcome. Cost of admission is \$10 and includes draft beer, soda, chips and pretzels.

A NIGHT OF JAZZ!

A free concert will be presented by the “Nite Caps,” the cadet jazz band from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn., at John Carroll School in Bel Air starting at 8 p.m. For additional information, call 410-838-7444.

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 14
OWC/MCSC LUNCHEON

The Edgewood Area Officers’ Wives Club is holding its annual OWC/MCSC luncheon at Top of the Bay. Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. Deborah Egerton, Ph.D., a noted motivational speaker, will present the program, “Women, Challenges and the New Millennium.”

Lunch will consist of the following buffet priced at \$9, including tax and gratuity: garden salad with dressing, fried chicken, beef ala burgundy, noodles, potatoes, vegetables, rolls, beverages and assorted cakes and pies. Call Diane Payne at 410-569-5116 or Jenna Edens at 410-459-5467 with your reservation by Friday, March 9.

THURSDAY
MARCH 15
USA WARRANT OFFICER ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Aberdeen/Edgewood Chapter of the United States Army Warrant Officer Association will hold its March meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Top of the Bay in the Gunpowder Room. Please come and bring a fellow warrant officer. Lunch is available. For more information contact Chief Warrant Officers Pete Hill or Jane Jones at 410-278-4979.

FRIDAY
MARCH 16
WEEKLY BINGO

The Weedon-Elliott Ladies Auxiliary, VFW 8126, sponsors weekly bingo every Friday, 7 p.m., at Joseph L. Davis Post 47, American Legion, 501 St. John Street in Havre de Grace.

SATURDAY
MARCH 17
ST. PATRICK’S DAY DINNER

The Weedon-Elliott Ladies Auxiliary, VFW 8126, located on Lodge lane, Havre de Grace will hold a St. Patrick’s Day Dinner, from 3 to 7 p.m. Cost of the dinner is \$5.50 per person. Corned beef, ham, cabbage, potatoes, and carrots will be served. For reservations or to order a dinner to go, call 410-939-4578.

BABYSITTER’S TRAINING COURSE

Youths can earn money and learn first-aid skills at the American Red Cross Babysitter’s Training Course. The two-day program will be taught from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 17 and 24 at the APG Red Cross Office, building 2477. Youths ages 11 to 15 can attend this interactive program which teaches knowledge, skills and confidence to care for infants through primary school age children. Cost of the course is \$20 with military ID and \$37 without military ID. For more information or to register, call 1-800-787-8002 or visit the Red Cross web site at www.redcross-cmd.org.

SUNDAY
MARCH 18
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Military Order of the Cootie and Ladies Auxiliary #8 will hold their installation of officers for 2001-2002 year at 2 p.m. at Harford County Memorial #5337, 3705 Pulaski Highway in Abingdon.

TUESDAY
MARCH 20
IRISH SPECIALTY MEAL

The annual Irish Specialty Meal will be held in the Aberdeen Area dining facilities, buildings 4219 and 4503, and Edgewood Area dining facility, building E-4225, 5:30 to 7 p.m. During this event all military, family members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and guests are invited to dine.

The standard meal rate of \$3.20 applies to any officer, enlisted member, and family member of sergeant or above, Department of Defense civilian, retiree and their guest. The discount meal rate of \$2.65 applies to spouses and other family members of enlisted personnel in ranks private through specialist/corporal.

For more information call Edward Parylo, or Joyce Thane at 410-306-1399/1393/1398.

Irish specialty menu: Broccoli and cheese soup, simmered corned beef, beef pot pie, savory baked chicken, baked knockwurst with sauerkraut, grilled rubeen sandwiches, parsley buttered potatoes, mashed potatoes, fried cabbage, seasoned carrots, brown gravy, cole slaw with creamy dressing, country style tomato salad, assorted breads, carrot cake, snickerdoodle cookies, Boston creme pie, soft-serve ice cream, coffee, tea, milk and soda (Note: The menu is subject to change without prior notification.)

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 21
BEEF AND BURGUNDY

Beef and Burgundy will be offered at Top of the Bay, 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$13.95 for adults, \$5 for children, ages 6 to 11 and five and under are free. For more information, call Top of the Bay at 410-278-3062/2552.

FRIDAY
MARCH 23
LONGABERGER BASKET BINGO

The Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Football Program will sponsor Longaberger Basket Bingo, 7 p.m. at the Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street. Doors open at 6 p.m. There will be food, drinks and baked goods available. Cost is \$10 per ticket (three cards), and \$5

for additional sets of three cards. For tickets, call Pat Guary, 410-272-4445, or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. Proceeds benefit the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation football program.

SATURDAY
MARCH 24
BASKET BINGO

The Water Witch Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary will hold a Longaberger Basket bingo at the VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per ticket (3 paper cards); extra cards are available at \$5 per set. Doors open at 6 p.m. There will be food, drinks and baked goods available. The fundraiser benefits the Water Witch Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary. For tickets, call Brenda Conjour, at 410-273-7332.

MECHANICAL MOZART

The Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra will perform 8 p.m. at John Carroll High School, Bel Air. The Orchestra’s percussion section performance will have a twist - members will be playing large wrenches from a tank maintenance shop at APG as musical instruments. Performances include Exsultate Jubilate, K. 165 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Symphony No. 11 “The Year of 1905,” Op. 103 by Dmitri Shostakovich. Tickets cost \$10 for adults, \$12 at the door; \$8 for adults, \$10 at the door; and \$5 for students. Tickets may be purchased at Preston’s Stationary, 410-838-5858, Musicland, 410-838-2079, or Music and Arts Center, 410-569-3500.

SUNDAY
MARCH 25
SHRIMP AND BULL ROAST

The Ladies Auxiliary of Aberdeen Memorial VFW Post 10028, 821 Old Philadelphia Road (behind Wal-Mart) is sponsoring a shrimp and bull roast. The menu consists of steamed shrimp, pit beef, Chesapeake chicken, Italian sausage w/peppers, a side-dish buffet offering a wide variety of salads and vegetables, plus draft beer and soda. Food will be served 1 to 5 p.m. DJ music will be 2 to 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$23 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call 410-272-1218 or 410-569-0127 for more information.

TUESDAY
March 27
PANCAKE SUPPER

The Aberdeen Lions Club will hold their annual Pancake Supper from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Aberdeen High School North Building cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 in advance from any club member and \$5.50 at the door. Children 3 and under are free. The Aberdeen Lioness Club will also hold a bake sale in the lobby. For tickets or information, call 410-676-8574.

FRIDAY
MARCH 30
MORE BASKET BINGO

The Aberdeen Fire Hall, Rogers Street, will hold a Longaberger Basket bingo at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per ticket (3 paper cards); extra cards are available at \$5 per set. Doors open at 6 p.m. There will be food, drinks and baked goods available. To purchase tickets, call Nicki Leonetti, 410-272-8275 or Brenda Conjour, 410-273-7332. The fundraiser benefits the Aberdeen High School Junior and Senior Prom.

OC&S LIBRARY

The Ordnance Center and Schools Library is located in the basement in building 3071. Hours are Monday and Thursday, 12 to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, 12 to 7 p.m., and Friday, 12 to 4 p.m.

LEAVE DONATION

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program are:

Ameneh M. Arasten (maternity)
Fay Walker Banker (hip replacement)
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)
Barbara Boyd (mother is ill)
Bonnie Bromley (liver transplant)
Daniel Brown (father has emphysema)
Tammy Budkey
Nancy Coleman-Jones (surgery)
Tracy H Coliano-Hirsch (maternity)
Geraldine S. Cragg
Bonnie K. Day (surgery)
William H. Davis (recovering from illness)
Tricia Lin Dietz
Fred Dill
Surinder K. Dillon
Joseph R. Dugan
Messina Enderlein
Wayne Erb (wife is ill)
Willa Freisheim
Penelope K. Galoff (maternity)
Norman L. Greear
Michael L. Hitchcock (surgery)
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasitosis, fibromyalgia condition)
Stephen Howard (bone marrow transplant)
Wayne A. Jaynes
Evelyn K., Johnson (surgery)
Carole Jones
Marlin Julian (heart surgery)
Jennifer Keetley (maternity)
Beverly King (caring for husband)
William Klein
Yvonne Lissimore (knee surgery)

Angela R. Little (neck and shoulder injury)
Rebecca G. Mercer-Leto (heart attack)
Nicholas J. Lombardo, Jr. (heart attack)
Stacy Miller (maternity)
Mary V. Overstreet (twisted and sprained wrists and legs)
Cecil Pennington (surgery)
Debi L. Petosky (back surgery)
Mary E. Pettitway
Barbara Carol Remines (surgery)
Michael Reynolds
Boyd J. Richards (care of mother)
Denise Robinson (maternity)
Ricky Ross (heart attack)
Tami C. Rowland (maternity)
Allan Scarborough (back surgery)
Ralph A. Scutti (care of daughter)
Sherry Schaffer
Lena Shelton
John E. Smith
Motoko Stahl
Rachel Swearingen
Ronald L. Taylor (chronic pulmonary disease)
Frances L. Thomas
Rosalind Walters Kenion (maternity)
Cecelia Walton (respiration problems)
Willie Williams
Charles Young (kidney and pancreas transplant)
Amber M. Vanakin (care of husband)
Josephine O. Wojciechowski (care for elderly parents)

For information about donating annual leave, call Dave Mial at 410-278-1524 or fax 410-278-7877.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3 CHILDREN \$1.50

SAVETHE LAST DANCE

Friday, March 9, 7 p.m.

Starring: Julia Stiles, Sean Patrick Thomas

Sara comes from a small-town environment and dreams of devoting her life to ballet. Derek comes from inner-city Chicago and dances to a different beat - the rhythmic pulse of hip-hop. Together, they must overcome not only their differences but also the opposition of their friends and families if their romance is going to survive. (Rated PG-13)

SUGAR AND SPICE

Saturday, March 10, 7 p.m.

Starring: Marley Shelton, James Marsden

The A-Squad is your typical group of mall-going, pizza-eating, boy-chasing teenaged girls living on the edge of perfection. Sure, each member has her foibles. But when they work together, making human pyramids and rousing the home team, they rule. (Rated PG-13)

SNATCH

Saturday, March 10, 9 p.m. (FREE ADMISSION)

Starring: Benicio Del Toro, Dennis Farina

Diamond thief Franky arrives in London to deliver a huge diamond to his boss. In his mission to offload smaller stones, he is tempted placing a bet on an illegal boxing bout. Little does he know that it's a setup. (Rated R)

LIBRARY UPDATE

The post’s libraries have new books for your reading pleasure. Come by either the Aberdeen Area Library or the Edgewood Area Branch Library and check them out.

Book of Honor: Covert Lives and Classified Deaths at the CIA by Ted Gup

Cassidy’s Run: The Secret Spy War Over Nerve Gas by David Wise

If Success is a Game, These are the Rules by Cherie Carter-Scott

How to Use Your Eyes by James Elkins

Your Income Tax, 2001 by J. K. Lasser

The Future of Success by Robert B. Reich

Internet Travel Planner by Michael Shapiro

The Pentagon Papers: National Security versus the Public’s Right to Know by Geoffrey A. Campbell

While America Sleeps: Self-Delusion, Military Weakness, and the Threat to Peace Today by Donald Kagan

You’re Fifty - Now What? Investing for the Second Half of Your Life by Charles Schwab

The Aberdeen Area Library is located at building 3320 on Aberdeen Blvd. Temporary operating hours are Monday through Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday and Friday closed, Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Edgewood Area Library is located at building E-4405 on Austin Road. Temporary operating hours are Wednesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, closed, Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

MWR UPDATE

Edgewood Arts & Crafts is a Morale, Welfare Recreation facility and is open to active and retired military, civilians, and contractors working on Aberdeen Proving Ground and their dependents. We are located in building E-4440 next to the military police station near the troop store. Our hours of operation are Thursday, 1 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 410-436-2153 during listed hours.

Ceramic Class

A basic ceramic class will be held on Saturday, March 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This class teaches the basics of mold pouring, glazing, and painting. Ceramic projects range from beginning to advanced level, holiday decorations, decorative lamps, water fountains in a variety of styles, etc. Cost is \$7 plus supplies.

Porcelain Dolls

A beginning porcelain doll class making a Sugar Britches doll will be held on Fridays, March 9, 16 and 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Class size is limited. Pre registration is required. Cost is \$30 plus supplies.

Stained Glass

A beginning stained glass class will be held Saturday, March 17 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Students will make a simple suncatcher using the copper foil method. Cost is \$25 and includes supplies.

Framing Class

A beginning matting and framing class will be held on March 29 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Students must bring an 8 inch by 10 inch picture to class to frame and pre register in advance because class size is limited. Cost is \$15 plus supplies.

Custom Framing

A professional picture framer is available to help with all of your framing needs. We frame photographs, diplomas, limited edition prints, posters, oil paintings or just about anything. There is a wide selection of mats and frames to choose from. Large or small pictures can be framed for your home or office. VISA or Master Card are accepted, including Government VISA Cards. We do quality work at reasonable prices.

Noted military artist Don Stivers is featuring his print signing of his latest work entitled “Service on the Line” in May, for Ordnance Week. To celebrate this special signing, the Arts and Crafts Center is offering \$10 off custom framing labor for any Don Stivers print, custom framed at the Arts and Crafts Center through June 30.

Recruits get a preview of soldiering skills

Delayed Entry Program prepares young people for basic training

ARMY OF 500, from front page
commander of the 61st Ordnance Brigade.

The following individuals from the eastern shore of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia were promoted to private 2nd class: Rashid McMillan, Katrina Parker, Michael Gerleve, Erik Zatwarytsky, Nathaniel J. Monk, Stephen Greson and Derrick Lum. The U.S. Army Delmarva Recruiting Company recruited them.

The DEPs were accompanied by more than 60 recruiters who assisted drill sergeants and instructors from OC&S in showing them not only what their advanced individual training would be like, but also some of the basic soldier skills such as saluting and marching.

Also joining the group were some young men and women who have already completed basic training under the program.

Pvt. Dionn Pyamp-Armstead was one. During a break working with the DEPs on drill and ceremony, she said, “Oh, I remember this from basic training.” She added, “basic training wasn’t hard at all. It’s all in your mind because it’s more mental than physical.

“The day before I left for basic training, I was scared and crying,” she said. “But, when I came home, I was so proud of myself and my parents were proud of me. Basic training was a great experience. I told all of my crazy stories, got to meet new people and make new friends.”

One young man who was seeing the Army for the first time was Cesar Pinero, a senior at Philadelphia’s Central High School. His first contact with a recruiter was by chance.

“I was riding my bike down the street and had stopped to look at a karate school. An Army recruiter happened to be nearby and began talking to me,” Pinero said. “My interest in radios is now translating into a five-year enlistment and training as a microwave systems operator and maintainer.”

The Delayed Entry Program introduces the future soldier to some of the training that will be encountered in basic training. Successfully completing the pre-basic training task list, trains and tests the individual on basic skills

taught at basic training such as first aid, recognizing military rank and general orders.

The program provides the individual with an understanding of what will be encountered during basic training, thus minimizing the stress caused by not knowing what to expect.

DEP activities like the visit to APG serve an important purpose.

“Involving these future soldiers in various Army activities prior to basic training keeps them pumped-up and excited about their decision to enlist,” explained Master Sgt. James Creech, the Mid-Atlantic Battalion’s operations NCO.

Lt. Col. Kevin Moore, commander of the 16th Ordnance Battalion, explained that his unit was supporting the visit as part of the Regional Area Support Demonstration, part of a U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command program which opens its facilities to the Army Recruiting Command in an effort to boost recruitment.

“The reason why we’re doing this is because recruiting is an Army mission, not just a recruiting command mission, and this is my battalion’s contribution to that effort,” said Moore. “We have a real interest in ensuring that we bring high-quality young people into the Army.

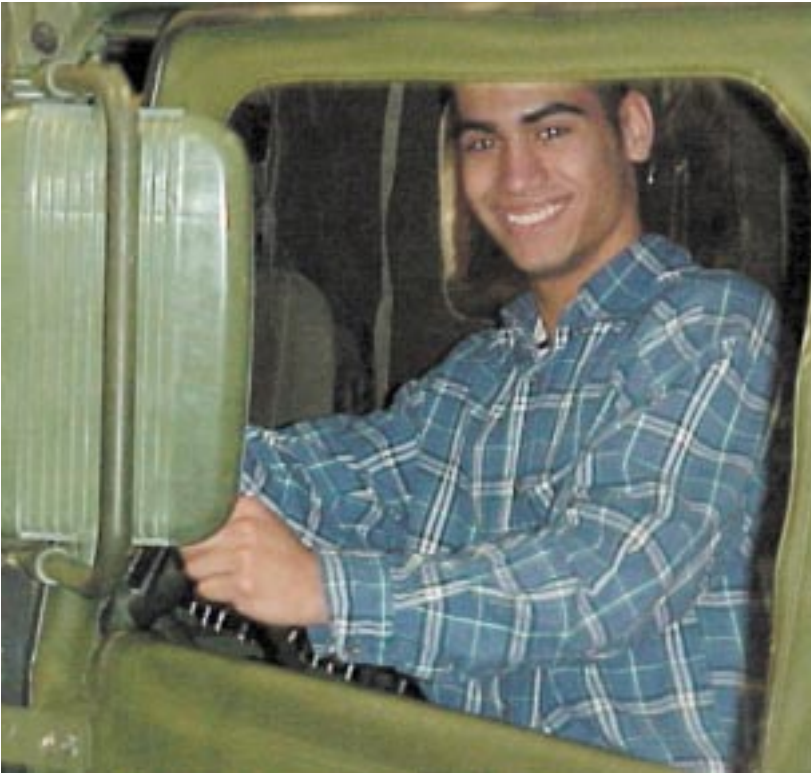
“The training that we provide will give the individual that extra bit of knowledge when they get to basic,” he said. “That knowledge leads to confidence which will make them more comfortable in a training environment.”

Both battalions were busy with their special visitors.

A total of 174 DEPs, 25 referrals and numerous recruiters spent the day in the Edgewood Area with the 143rd Ordnance Battalion touring the training areas, eating in the dining facility, and practicing their marching and saluting in the recreation center.

The 16th Ordnance Battalion played host to 263 DEPs, 31 referrals, 65 recruiters and two fathers in the Aberdeen Area.

(Editor’s note: E. C. Starnes, the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools communications coordinator contributed to this article.)



Photos by E. C. STARNES

Top, Sgt. 1st Class Patrick McGrattan, OC&S Tactical Support Equipment Division, demonstrates teaching electrical circulation theory and practice to a group of young men and women visiting APG as part of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command Delayed Entry Program. The DEPs were visiting to familiarize themselves with what they will face when they enter the Army. Bottom, left, drill sergeants from OC&S help DEPs learn basic marching steps as part of their pre-basic training task list. Right, Cesar Pinero, a senior at Philadelphia’s Central High School, takes the opportunity to sit in the driver’s seat of a High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle. He has enlisted to become a microwave systems operator and maintainer.

Chaplain encourages wisdom and prayer



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Sgt. Brian Reilly a member of the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own) Brass Quintet performs the hymn “How Great Thou Art” on trumpet. The Quintet provided musical entertainment for the National Prayer Luncheon held Feb. 27 at Top of the Bay.

LUNCHEON, from front page

“We are all leaders in some way if we are touching someone’s life,” Hicks said.

“You are a leader whether you are a parent, a child, a teacher or a soldier.”

He applauded President George W. Bush in his call for prayers for the nation and General George S. Patton who once directed a unit chaplain to encourage troops to pray for better weather to turn the course of an upcoming battle.

“Patton believed in planning, leading and prayer,” Hicks said. “The

rains stopped, allowing the Allies to launch a successful strike. The bottom line is, we need a nation of people given to prayer.”

Hicks encouraged listeners to establish a relationship with God and to strive for the wisdom and knowledge that marked Solomon’s character.

“The word applies to each of us because each of us has been given the opportunity to rule over our personal worlds,” Hicks said. “Try to be like Solomon. Having such character will certainly ensure God’s blessing.”

Augmenting the program were Staff Chaplains (Majs.) William Knight and Michael Wallman who delivered the invocation and benediction and Friar John J. Bauer, APG parish priest who led a special call to prayer that asked for strong, compassionate leaders.

Scripture readings from the Old and New Testaments were given by APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Stallings and U.S. Army Technical Escort Unit Command Sgt. Maj. Billy Lewis Jr.

The Brass Quintet from the 389th Army Band (AMC’s Own) led by Sgt. Brian Reilly, provided musical selections and Sandy Nook, a member of the Aberdeen Area Chapel’s Protestant service performed a choral selection.

Hicks is a native of Glen Cove, New York. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1958 at age 17, and left as a staff sergeant in 1967.

Before his discharge, Hicks was converted to Christianity through the ministry of his unit chaplain and soon answered God’s call to enter the ministry. He entered the Army chaplaincy in August 1974 as a Presbyterian minister.

Hicks’ enlisted assignments include VII Corps Artillery, Stuttgart, Germany; 187th and 327th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky.; 2nd Infantry Division, Korea and 54th Infantry, Bamberg, Germany.

As a chaplain he served with the 759th Military Police Battalion, Fort Dix, N.J.; 3rd Brigade, 3rd Armored Division, Friedberg, Germany; 1/509th Airborne Infantry, Vicenza Italy; 35th Signal Brigade and 1st Signal Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C.; U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga.; 6th Infantry Division, Fort Richardson, Ala.; U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C.; V Corps, and U.S. Army Europe command chaplain, Heidelberg, Germany.

His military and civilian education includes the U.S. Army Chaplain Basic and Advanced courses, Combined Armed Services Staff School, Instructor Training Course, Command and General Staff College and the Army War College, Allentown, Pa. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Master of Theology degree from Duke University.

Government claims can affect you

By Carla Brown-Minor
Garrison SJA Office

While many people understand that citizens can file claims against the government for damages and injury, they do not understand that the reverse is true as well. This article discusses the government’s right to assert claims against individuals for costs and damages they have caused the government. These claims by the government are called affirmative claims.

Affirmative claims are the determination, assertion, collection, settlement, waiver and termination of claims in favor of the United States for damage to, loss of, or destruction of, Army property and for the recovery of medical care provided, or to be provided, by the government.

The Federal Claims Collection Act states that federal agencies will try to collect all claims of the government for money or property. Among other things, it provides a basis for agencies to recover for damage to government property.

The Federal Medical Care Recovery Act provides for the recovery of medical care provided by the government on account of injury or disease caused by circumstances creating tort liability upon some third person. For instance, the government can recover from a third party the medical treatment costs for a soldier injured by third party. Beginning in September 1996, under the FMCRA, the government also has the right to recover

lost wages for a soldier who is injured by another person.

Pursuant to 10 USC Section 1095 military treatment facilities have the authority to collect the reasonable cost of health care from health insurance and Medicare supplemental policies. Amended Nov. 5, 1990, Public Law 101-510, 104 Statute 1485 gives claims offices the additional authority to assert claims against automobile insurers for care provided in a medical treatment facility.

If you are a soldier and have been in an accident and received medical treatment at a military facility, the military treatment facility will send the Staff Judge Advocate Claims Office a copy of the emergency care record. The Claims Office will then send the injured party (soldier or dependent) a Statement of Incident Form, which is to be filled out and returned by the “reply by” date. This form is very important to the recovery part of the case.

The government will not be able to collect from the military member directly if it was their fault. However, the member’s Personal Injury Protection coverage may be required to cover the medical bill.

For more information concerning the affirmative claims process, contact Carla Brown-Minor, affirmative claims examiner, 410-278-1459, Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and alternate Fridays between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Art, fellowship highlight history observance

Gospel service celebrates Black History

By **Yvonne Johnson**
APG News

In an effort to honor a rich and colorful heritage, members of the Aberdeen Area chapel’s gospel service hosted a Black History Pot Luck dinner and art display in the chapel’s fellowship hall as part of its Black History Month celebration.

The event followed the Sunday afternoon service led by Chaplain (Lt. Col.(P)) Larry Robinson, installation chaplain for APG and the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command.

Robinson said the dinner topped off a month-long celebration which centered on learning more about biblical characters of African-American descent.

“Every week we were presented a snapshot of the lives of some of the people in the Bible,” Robinson said. “Children and adults participated in the depictions, which were researched and arranged by assistant pastor Melody Goodall.”

The weekly presentations included skits, poetry readings and African dances led by Denise Coleman, a personnel clerk with the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center.

Goodall and her husband, Osborne Goodall, an industrial hygienist with the Edgewood Chemical

Biological Center, brought several pieces of African artifacts for display. They included tribal masks, a Zulu beaded doll, a Fulani hat and an Ashanti stool.

Goodall said her husband has been collecting African art since 1988.

“It’s important that we share our heritage with our children,” Goodall said. “This way they know they can celebrate other aspects of life and still be saved.”

Other items on display included books on Kwanzaa, Egypt and African artists, paintings by Walter Reddy III, Tom McKinney, William Jennings and Don Stivers, and figurines by Norman Blackshear.

Sgt. 1st Class Larry Paul, an instructor writer from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion and Renata Weaver, a secretary with the U.S. Army Evaluation Center, helped serve the expansive meal that included macaroni and cheese, collard greens, roast beef, candied yams and a host of desserts.

Paul said the gathering was just an example of the good that comes from mixing fellowship and faith.

“The best part is the unity,” Paul said. “Bringing everybody together is what it’s all about.”



Above, Regina Mack, choir director for the Moment of Truth Gospel choir, poses with her grandmother, Geneva Smalls who was visiting from South Carolina. The 80-year old said she “thoroughly enjoyed” the program.

Right, Angela Dargan, the wife of Sgt. 1st Class Reginald Dargan, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 16th Ordnance Battalion, holds up an African shield, one of many pieces of African art brought in by Osborne and Melody Goodall.



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Left, from left, Tawana Perkins, Chantay Averett and Lisa Lyons display their African finery.



African artifacts and modern-day figurines and paintings make up the art display at the Black History Pot Luck celebration.



Maj. Donna Webley, HHC 16th Ordnance Battalion, poses with an African Barbie doll from her collection. The collectible Barbie by designer Bob Mackie is wearing a hand-beaded gown and authentic feather headdress.